LEISURE HOUR'S READING

THE LATE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Never put off till to-morrow what [illegible] day after to-morrow [illegible]

[illegible]

This parti[illegible] by mail pub[illegible] ing [illegible] ness [illegible] dress [illegible] ma[illegible] em [illegible] ne sig[illegible] ough [illegible] but [illegible] ches in [illegible] ness [illegible] ntal aberr[illegible] up before [illegible] ne morning [illegible] ectric [illegible] I am close. If they had let take my natural rest where would I have n now? Keeping sheep, we doubt and re ered by all [illegible] and what a great old adv interer the sub t of this neglect was." In order to get a nce to fly his kite on Sunday, he used to g a key on the string, and let on to be fish by lightning, and a guileless public would home chuckling about the "wisdom" and the nius" of the hoary Sabbath-breaker. He ented a stove that would smoke your head in five hours by the clock. * * *

was always proud of telling how he entered hiladelphia for the first time with nothing in world but three shillings in his pocket and r rolls of bread under his arm. But really, en you come to examine it critically, it was hing. Any body could have done it. * * *

Benjamin Franklin did a great many notable ngs for his country, and made her young ne to be admired in many lands as the ther of such men. It is not the idea of the moment to ignore that or cover it up. No, the splendor of it is to study those potentialities of his which he worked up with a great ow of originality out of raiment that had be the wearers the platitudes as early as the days from Babel, and also to study his store l like maxims, inspirations, his unseemly leavel to make himself conspicuous when he ered Philadelphia, and his diving his kite l folding away in time in all sorts of such ys, when it ought to have been foraging supper or constructing candles. I merely sire to be able to know what of the preva le calamities which among heads of families at Franklin escaped his great genius by eking for nothing striking by moonlight. I getting upon the night instead of waiting til morning like a Christian and that this gramme, rigidly inflicted, will make a Frank- of every father's fool. It is time these gen- men were finding out that these execrable centricities of instinct and conduct are only evidences of genius and not the creators of

I wish I had been the father of my pa- ts long enough to make them comprehend truth, and thus prepare them to let their have an earlier time of it. When I was a d I had to boil soap notwithstanding my ther was wealthy, and I had to get up early study grammar at breakfast, and peddle own poetry, and do every thing just as ankin did, at the solemn hope that I would a Franklin some day. And here I am.

HOMŒOPATHY.

[Between a Believer in Infinitesimal Doses and Cautious Skeptic.]

Skeptic—So you still adhere to the Hahnemann theory of infinitesimal doses. Is it as popular as ever?

Believer—More and more popular. It grows favor every day, but perhaps there is not such neral adherence to high dilutions.

Skeptic—What are high dilutions.

Believer—From the hundredth to the two hundredth. The large number of practitioners, wever, probably do not go beyond the thirth decimal trituration.

Skeptic—Decimal triturations! It was once ogether centesimal triturations, was it not?

Believer—There is possibly a little modifica- n here. The decimal is superseding the cen- imal.

Skeptic—But that is a big change, between ns and hundreds. However, if one believes these triturations, he is not likely to care ich whether his drugs comes through a hogs- ad or so of water more or less.

Believer—Hogshead of water? Why do you ggerate in this unfair manner?

Skeptic—Exaggerate? Let us look into your rge a little. Drugs, you say, are attenuated rough thirty—we will not explore the region the high potencies—dilutions. Now, what a dilution? To begin, what is the first deci- al dilution?

Believer—One grain of a drug, or the mother- cture, diluted in nine drops of alcohol or ter.

Skeptic—Exactly. And the second dilution is a drop of the first dilution in nine drops of alcohol or water—let us say water. And the third is a drop of the second similarly diluted through nine drops of water, and the fourth is a drop of the third similarly diluted through nine [illegible] and so on. And I think [illegible]

Believer—Quite [illegible] to hear you say [illegible] For a little arithmetic will show that a thirtieth dilution [illegible] would not require for the thirtieth dilution the [illegible] nine drops of water would be [illegible] to exhaust the whole of the mother [illegible] that attenuation. It is [illegible] drop of the tincture and [illegible] drops of water for the second, [illegible] and so on to the third.

Skeptic—Why, [illegible] Well, [illegible] Believer—Not at the moment.

Skeptic—That is unfortunate, for you will [illegible] you find that there are 61, [illegible] 2 [illegible] 000 [illegible] the large Croton [illegible]

Believer—Don't [illegible] Boy come. What are [illegible]

Skeptic—Well, [illegible] The circumference of the [illegible] Park is [illegible] miles, or [illegible] inches. [illegible] multiplied by 61,190, gives us as a result 63,281,[illegible] or let us say in round numbers, sixty-three trillions of drops of water. This is pretty big, considerably more than the half dozen bagsheads, more or less, that we were speaking of, but at a glance at the two lines of figures shows us, it is not nearly enough for the thirty dilutions. How many reservoirs will do it then? Let us divide our one nonillion by those sixty-three trillions, and see. Can you guess the figures in your mind's eye? Let me set them down for you. Here they are: 1,000,[illegible] divided by 63,000,000,000,000. Cross out the [illegible] ciphers, and a fraction. This is dilution with a vengeance. Can there be so much fresh water on the continent?

Believer—This [illegible] nonsense!

Skeptic—Well, [illegible] the figures are correct, nevertheless. Verify them for yourself. But understand, it is easy enough to get the thirtieth dilution. Thirty phials containing ten drops of water each, would enable you to do it—but a drop from the thirtieth phial would be equivalent to one nonillionth of the original drug.

Believer—You are in some way altogether out, for homeopathy is brilliantly successful.

Skeptic—My dear sir, the vital principle of homeopathy is *similia similibus curantur*—"like cures like"—as we all know, and practitioners may at their pleasure give doses, from the crude drug to the two hundredth dilution. I therefore say nothing about homeopathy—indeed, I find no fault with infinitesimal doses if anybody likes them. I should prefer myself ten drops of the thirtieth dilution to ten drops too much of any drug you may name. I affirm nothing, I deny nothing—I have simply amused myself with a few figures, that is all.—*Appleton's Journal.*

My baby boy sat on the floor,
His big blue eyes were full of wonder,
For he had never thought before
That baby by the mirror door,
What kept the twin so near, asunder.

He leaned too and that golden head,
The mirror border framed within,
Until twin cheeks, like roses red,
Lay side by side, then softly said,
"I can't get out, can't you come in?"

"I don't think I like these mosquitoring places," said Job Shuttle, as he gazed long and mournfully at his face as reflected by the mirror. "I declare, I never met so many bills in one night before. Honored every one of 'em with a draft, too. Blood money, by jingo!"—*New Haven Register.*

"My dear, of what do these autumnal tints, this glowing baldric of the sky, this blazing garniture of the dying year, remind you?" asked a sentimental maiden of her lover. "Pancakes," he promptly answered." And then she realized, for the first time, that their two hearts did not beat as one.

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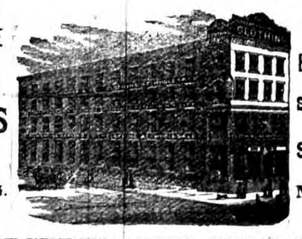

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